

## **Safety Review Committee**

**November 19, 2004**

**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

### **Minutes**

#### **Members Present**

Joel Ager, Michael Banda, John Bercovitz, Dennis Collins, Ben Feinberg, Richard Kadel, Mack Kennedy, Don Lucas, Karen Ramorino, Linfeng Rao, Pat Thomas (for Peter Seidl), Scott Taylor,

#### **Members Absent**

Sharon Doyle, Ken Fletcher, Peter Lichty, Augusto Macchiavelli, Linda Smith, Weyland Wong  
Hisao Yokota

#### **Others Present**

James Breckinridge, Daniel Lunsford

### **Minutes of October Meeting**

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

### **Comments from the Chair**

There were scheduling conflicts with a DOE laser safety televideo conference and interviews for the new EH&S safety group manager position.

### **Plan for FY05 MESH Reviews**

Five divisions are scheduled for review in FY 05. The following MESH team assignments were proposed:

- Life Sciences: Joel Ager (leader), Karen Ramorino, Sharon Doyle;
- Genomics: Scott Taylor (leader), Peter Lichty, Hisao Yokota;
- Directorate: Michael Banda (leader), Augusto Macchiavelli, Linda Smith;
- Environmental Health and Safety: Richard Kadel (leader), Peter Seidl, Don Lucas;
- Computing Sciences: Weyland Wong (leader), Ken Fletcher, Linfeng Rao.

The team assignments are tentative. Anyone who wants to suggest changes should contact Ben Feinberg.

### **Site Access and Security**

Dan Lunsford, LBNL Manager of Security and Emergency Operations, briefed the committee on the latest developments in site access and security.

Blackberry Gate is going to be reconfigured with three lanes to improve visitor processing and traffic flow.

Dan is studying the possibility of designating protected areas at LBNL with higher security and providing more open access to the rest of LBNL. Pacific Northwest Laboratory and Jefferson Lab have adopted a similar approach. Areas with high-value equipment or special safety concerns can be protected by special keys or card key access, alarms, video systems, and other

measures. Examples would include hazardous waste handling facilities, special nuclear materials storage areas, supercomputer centers, and level 2 biosafety laboratory. Card keys are coded through the Site Access Management System (SAMS). The person with the greatest stake in the facility is designated as the "authorizer" and they can appoint an "inputter" who can give access to appropriate people. If LBNL adopts a more open, campus-like site access system for most areas, theft may become a greater concern. Some researchers have experienced theft problems at UC. Students can enter LBNL during the day using their UC campus ID cards. This raises some questions about how to ensure Lab security. There are only two people in the LBNL Site Access office, and it would be difficult for them to process badges or passes for everyone coming up to LBNL.

There is a concern that names of animal researchers being made public. In some places, animal rights activists are using such information to harass researchers and their families.

DOE's Oakridge Operations Center sent 4 experts (cyber security, physical security, force protection, and personnel security) to do an audit of our security systems in July. They had some questions about how LBNL manages employees with security clearances. Steven Chu and Sally Benson are working on a policy. LBNL wants to maintain an unclassified status. We need to ensure projects, funding sources, and uses of information are unclassified. There are about 50-60 people with clearances. LBNL does not hold or issue clearances. The most recent DOE policy is that employees that do classified work at other sites can't be funded by LBNL for their classified work. LBNL people doing classified work will need dual appointments with other institutions and will need to be paid separately by non-LBNL funding sources. Oakland DOE clearances have been transferred to LANL or Oakridge. People on national committees or participating in conferences that require controlled area access will have clearances held by the agencies or organizations that request their participation. LBNL will keep records of who has clearances, and employees will need permission from Steven Chu to obtain a clearance. The DOE threshold for a security clearance is 90 days. LBNL will review clearance needs annually.

There are new guidelines for foreign visitors and students under the UFVA program. Sally Benson is the approver for people from sensitive countries. Visitors from sensitive countries can have immediate access to the site, followed by a security check if their assignment is for 30 days or less. There are over 600 people here from sensitive countries. There is an on-line form, and HR Centers will assist with processing. There will eventually be a UFVA program liaison assigned to each division.

People from the 6 designated terrorist-sponsoring countries require approval from a DOE management panel before their arrival at LBNL. (Iraq has recently been removed from the list.) The NNSA and Office of Science undersecretaries have responsibility for reviewing and approving visitors from terrorist-sponsoring countries. No applications have been approved for 12 months, and we have 9 requests pending. The restriction applies to any non-U.S. citizen born in, having citizenship in, employed by, or acting in the interest of a terrorist-sponsoring country. If you want to invite a visitor or assignee from one of the designated countries, Steven Minniear, the NNSA Counterintelligence Officer assigned to LBNL, can help. Maki Tabata, UFVA Administrator, located at LBNL Site Access can also assist.

The new E911 system will provide information to the emergency dispatcher about the location of the caller, if they are calling from an LBNL phone. Calling 7911 from an LBNL site landline or an LBNL-issued cell phone will go to the dispatcher at LLNL. Calling 7911 or 911 on campus goes to the UC emergency center. Calling 911 from a personal cell phone goes to the California

Highway Patrol in Vallejo. To reach LBNL emergency services from a private cell phone, call (510) 486-6015. Calling 9-911 from an off-site building will go to the local emergency center (Berkeley, Walnut Creek, or Oakland police department).

Anyone who has questions about site access or security can call Dan Lunsford or Jim Breckinridge.

### **Electrical Safety**

In response to the electrical accident at SLAC, the LBNL Electrical Safety Subcommittee has been reviewing PUB-3000, Chapters 8 and 18. They are planning to propose clarifications to the definitions of Modes 1, 2, and 3 and “manipulative” work. They are incorporating the requirements of National Fire Protection Association standard 70E. The Committee requested that the draft language be sent out for comments and questions.

There is a concern about the impact of LBNL standards on service contractors. Will all the contractors we need be willing to meet our standards? Facilities requires construction contractors to sign a statement that they will follow PUB-3000 or equivalent standards. Researchers are required to assure the safety of service contractors they hire; however, researchers may not always be knowledgeable of the hazards of the contractors’ work. A boilerplate statement on a purchase order is not really very effective. Some work may need to be done energized. For example, not all systems on the ESNet are redundant.

### **Laser Safety**

Don Lucas attended the DOE laser safety televideo conference. There have been 4 laser accidents in the DOE complex in the past year. Ray Orbach threatened funding cut-offs and disciplinary actions, and said additional accidents could threaten the management structure of labs. DOE site personnel are asking for more oversight, walkthroughs of laser labs, and participation in meetings and reviews. In all of the accidents, the person injured wasn’t wearing protective eyewear at the time of the injury. Some of the people involved in the accidents were experienced researchers, so limiting access to experts would not have prevented them. There is a concern that increasing disciplinary actions may discourage reporting accidents, but the consequences of not reporting will be greater.

There is a concern that laser safety training classes are fairly generic, while laser systems are variable and constantly changing. The LBNL Laser Safety Subcommittee wants to improve communications with laser users. The LBNL Laser Safety Officer is visiting each laser lab and reviewing procedures with Principal Investigators and users. We need to ensure students are supervised and mentored by the most knowledgeable person. An all-hands laser users meeting is being considered.

There have been 34 laser safety “incidents” in the DOE complex over the last 20 years. The number of lasers has increased in recent years, but DOE is not considering this when looking at the accident rates. Individual concern for each other’s safety is the best message to encourage safe work practices.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Thomas, SRC Secretary

